

A JOURNAL of the March of the Confederate Army under the Command of His Grace the Duke of Marlborough, from Wednesday Night the 4th of July, N. S. till Thursday the 12th, being the Day after the Glorious Victory obtain'd over the French near Audenarde.

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54

ON Wednesday Night the 4th of July the French left their Camp at Brain-la-Lieu having sent a Detachment the Day before to take Possession of Ghent, which was to be deliver'd by Treachery to them; this Detachment was likewise to break the Bridges at Alost, and other Places upon the Dender, which might have been of Use to the Duke of Marlborough.

Upon Thursday the 5th, in the Morning, the Duke march'd from his Camp at Terbanck, and pass'd the Canal in four Columns, and encamp'd with his Left at Anderlecht, and his Right at the Moulin de Fomberg; where hearing of the Enemy's Intelligence in Ghent, and of their Detachment his Grace sent four Regiments of Dragoons to Dendermond to have prevented the Designs of the French upon the Town, but they came too late.

That same Day the French pass'd the Senna at Hall and Tobise, and were passing at the Mill of Goicke till Night, within a League of our Right Wing, which came very late into its Camp. The Army having made a long March through difficult Ways, it was not possible to attack the Enemy that Night.

On Friday the 6th, in the Morning our Army was drawn up in Battel; the greatest part of the Horse and Foot having been brought to the Right in the Night; the Enemy had the whole Night with all possible Diligence pass'd over the Dender, through the Town of Ninove, and over Bridges which were made near it for that purpose; so that our Detachment sent to attack their Rear Guard, came too late to find any thing but their small Baggage, and the Detachment that guarded it. Major-General Thunberg and Sir Richard Temple, with 10 Squadrons and 5 Battalions, beat the Escort and took a great part of Baggage. Their Detachment was sustain'd by Major General Duvence with 10 Squadrons more. That Night the Duke of Marlborough encamp'd at Aliche. The Enemy's Camp extend'd it self from above Alost to Schillbille on the Scheld. Prince Eugene arriv'd at Aliche, having left his Horse at Maffricht.

On Saturday the 7th the Army continued at Aliche. A Regulation was made for Baggage. Pioneers were sent out one every side to make Ways.

Sunday the 8th the Duke of Marlborough was very ill of a violent feverish Distemper but was much better towards the Evening. Orders were given at Monsieur d'Auverquerque's Quarters. There were 4 Battalions sent in to reinforce the Garrison of Brussels, and 8 Squadrons and as many Battalions order'd away with Major General Cadogan and the Quarter-Masters to make the Ways.

Monday the 9th the Army march'd in 4 Columns by the Left; all the Horse of the Right Wing in one Column on the Right, the Horse of the Left in a Column on the Left, and the Foot of both Lines breaking in the middle in two Columns in the Center. The Earl of Albemarle was left with 24 the Granadiers of the Army, and 30 Squadrons, to make the Rear Guard, in case the Enemy should have made any Movement towards Brussels.

This Morning his Grace the Duke of Marlborough heard, that the Detachments of 700 Men from Aeth Courtray and Menin, were safely got into Audenarde; and that Brigadier Chancelles, who had likewise flung himself into the Town, was not in any Apprehension for the Safety of it. Waller's Dragoons were likewise to be in the Town this Morning from Aeth, whether they had been sent from Aliche for that end. The Regulation touching the Baggage was exactly observ'd, and the Ways being well made, the Army march'd in beautiful Order, and with prodigious Expedition; the Head was pass'd Hertelingen, which is above 5 Leagues from Aliche, before 11 a Clock, the Lines perfectly clos'd up, without any straggling, or any thing left behind. The Duke of Marlborough gave Orders for the Army to pitch their Tents just in their March, fronting towards the Enemy. The Fr. who were far from expecting that the D. of Marlborough's Army was able to make such a March, did not beat their General till three a Clock in the Afternoon, reckoning themselves sure of the Camp of Lessines, in which they design'd to cover the Siege of Audenard, which they had invest'd this Morning, their Artillery being ready at Tournay. At seven the Retreat was beat, which was the signal for breaking the Tents,

and marching immediately. The Army march'd all Night, and Major General Cadogan, with his Detachment, having taken Possession of the Dender at Lessines, the Army began to pass at 11 a Clock on Tuesday the 10th, and continued their March to the Camp on the other side. The Rivulet that falls into the Dender, below the Camp of Lessines, is what makes the Strength of that Situation. The Enemy finding themselves disappointed of this Camp, left their Rout towards the Camp of Lessines, in which they had marched several Hours, and fac'd towards Gavre, to pass the Scheld there.

Wednesday the 11th. This Morning News came that the Enemy had quitted Audenarde. Brigadier Chancelles charg'd their Rear Guard with Waller's Dragoons. Major General Cadogan was sent with 16 Battalions and 8 Squadrons, to make the Ways and Bridges at Audenarde. The Army began to march at 8 a Clock by the Left still in 4 Columns, as it had encamp'd. After the News came of the Enemies being still passing at Gavre, and that there were hopes of coming to Action, the Army march'd with so great Expedition, that the Head was at two of the Clock in the Afternoon at the Bridges over which the 16 Battalions, that were with Major General Cadogan, were then passing; the 1 Squadrons, and the Quarter-Masters, with Major General Rantzau, were posted on an Eminence behind the Rivulet that runs into the Scheld they saw a great many French Squadrons drawn upon the Plain on the other side the Rivulet, and the march of the French Army being directed towards their Right; they had flung 7 Battalions of Foot to Heurne, thro' which the High-way runs along the Scheld. The Rivulet above is Marthy, and hardly passable for Horse, though very narrow. These Apperances made it uncertain whether their true Design was to hinder the Duke of Marlborough's passing the Scheld, or to gain their own Lines between Lisse and Tournay, which they might expect to have time enough to do, for they could by no Means imagine such a vast Army could march 5 Leagues in a very close Country, have their Ways made, pass a great River, and give the Disturbance all in one Day.

About 3 a Clock the Fr. Cavalry in that Plain, before our Rear Guard, began to disappear, taking their march towards their own Right; then Major-General Cadogan, who, between 3 and 4, with 12 of the 16 Battalions, had pass'd the Bridge, attack'd the Village Heurne with such Bravery (Brigadier Sabine with his Brigade, being at the Head) that they soon made themselves Masters of the Village, in which were 7 French Battalions, 3 of which were taken entire, as was the greater part of the other four.

Immediately after Major-General Bantzen at the Head of the 3 Squadrons, with the Quarter-Masters pass'd the Rivulet, and advanced into the Plain where the French Horse had been drawn up between the Villages of Rotze and Mullen, a great many Squadrons of their Rear Guard being still passing through that Plain; Squadrons with the Quarter-Masters, being form'd into Squadrons attack'd them with great Vigour, and drove them into the Close Ground and the Highway that led into the March of their own Army. Here it was that the Prince Electoral of Hannover distinguish'd himself, charging with his Sword in his Hand at the Head of a Squadron of Bulon's Dragoons; his Horse was shot under him and Colonel Lucky that commanded the Squadron was killed fighting bravely by him: Lieutenant General Shalubiergh and several other Volunteers, behav'd themselves with great Spirit, and led up the Squadrons. Here the French Regiment of La Bertouche, and several other Regiments were entirely broke. The Colonel La Bertouche, being dangerously wounded, was taken, as were many other Officers, with 12 standard Banners and Kettle Drums.

In the mean time the Troop continu'd to pass the Bridge with great Diligence; the Prussian Horse form'd themselves parallel to the same Plain where our advanced Guard was, and the rest of the Horse as they pass'd follow'd the Prussians through the Village of Heurne into the Plain; the Foot, by reason of the length of the March and that the Horse had dislopp'd a great part of the Way, arriv'd later at their Bridges, so that till then there was no Foot but the 16 Battalions.

On Lord Duke of Marlborough's Army being pass'd him to the Head of the Horse, where they were sent in, and the great deed done.

employ'd in the Attack of the Village to leave their Post there, and fling themselves into the Hedges on the other side of the Plain towards which the Enemy seem'd to be marching with great Diligence. There were then but two Battallions of ours on that side of the Plain, which were Major-General Collier's, and Brigadier Grumachon's; they were attack'd with great Fury, but maintained their Post with great Bravery till more Foot came to sustain them long afterwards. My Lord Duke of Marlborough sent Orders after Orders to the Foot to press their March, the French being then forming and ready to attack the Foot that was there with very unequal Numbers. In this time the Duke of Argyle arriv'd with 20 Battallions; they were hardly posted when the French attack'd them with great Fury, driving some Prussian Battallions from their Post, which notwithstanding the inequality of Numbers, they retook again Sword in hand: This happened about six in the Evening. Count Lutum by this time was coming up with the rest of the Foot of the Right to sustain this attack. My Lord Duke finding the great Effort was like to be made on the Right, sent to the Left for 10 Battallions; the Left Wing which had pass'd their Horse through Audenarde, and the Foot on Bridges below the Town made for that purpose, arriving some time later than the Right had form'd themselves in two Lines with the Village of Merghem behind them.

As soon as the foot arriv'd, they form'd themselves into two Lines before the Horse, and then attack'd in very good Order, the Inclosures and Villages in their Front wherein the French were posted. About seven a Clock the Fire grew universal both on the Right and Left in most places the French gave way, but being sustain'd with fresh Troops, the Action was maintain'd very obstinately a good while after, before the Left of the Left Wing there was a kind of an Opening through which run a Road that led into the Plain on the Top of the Hill, the Prince of Frize at the Head of the Dutch Foot clear'd this opening.

The Duke of Marlborough having sent to Monsieur d'Averquerque and the Count Tilly, to desire they might undertake something to employ the Enemy on that side. On the Instant in which this was performing, my Lord Marlborough arriv'd at the Left, Prince Eugene taking care of the Right; at the same time the Fire was seen to go into the Wood, the French seeming to yield almost every where.

My Lord Duke sent Orders to Monsieur d'Auverquerque and Count Tilly on the Top of the Hill, to press the French as much as they could on that side; accordingly they pass'd the Danish Horse thro' a narrow Defile into a field where all the French Household were drawn up under the Hedges. Round this great Field, being surround'd by the French, the Prince of Frize brought in the Foot, and surround'd them in two Lines, heled them on with great Relocation. The French gave way every where, the Count d'Oxenburgh was along with the Prince of Frize with the Foot. This open'd to be upon the Flank of the French, so that most of those that were retiring being beaten from the Right to the Left were forc'd to get into the Inclosures in great disorder, so that at Last, when growing Dark, many Battallions, and more Squadrons, flung themselves out in a desperate manner; some of them piercing thro' others, were cut to pieces, some were forc'd back, some pass'd thro' unperceiv'd and others ask'd to Capitulate for their whole Regiments.

The Order was now so very great, and the Fire directed so different ways at once, that it was impossible to know Friends from Enemies for which reason positive Orders were given to Fire no more in Morning, and rather let the Enemies escape, than venture putting our selves in Confusion.

During the greatest part of this Action, Monsieur d'Auverquerque was on Horse back at the Head of the Troops in both sides of the Fire; the Count de Tilly was at the Head of the Horse, and the Prince of Wurttemberg animated the Troops every where by his own Example, shewing himself in the places where the Enemy appear'd.

A great many Squadrons of the French Household, which were sent to support their Foot, were broke to Pieces. General Rantzau distinguish'd himself very much in this Action.

On the Right, while the Duke of Marlborough was on the Left, Prince Eugene made Openings with the Foot, sent in the Horse to a little Plain to attack the French Cavalry, which he did with very good Success; but pursuing too far, he was suffer'd by the Fire of the Foot, and by fresh Horse pouring down upon them. The Prussian Generals distinguish'd themselves very much, and lost very near half of their Number in this Action.

Lieutenant-General Watsmore, who shew'd a great deal of Valour in commanding that Attack, was at the Head of those Troops wounded slightly above the Eye.

Towards Night the French hardly made any more Resistance any where every thing seeming to be in the last Disorder; had there been but two hours of more light, in all probability their whole Body of Foot, and their Right Wing of Horse had been entirely cut off, they being very near surrounded.

As soon as it was dark their Troops retir'd by the Road that goes through the Village of Huxsen, from Audenarde to Ghent. Their Artillery and Baggage were not come up, so that in all the Action they did not make use of above four Pieces of Cannon.

As soon as it was Light, the Troops that had lain upon their Arms all Night were ready, but the Enemy was gone, leaving only some Foot and 25 Squadrons for their Rear-Guard.

The Duke of Marlborough order'd forty Squadrons from the Right, commanded by the Lieutenant-Generals Bulon and Lumley, with a considerable Body of Foot, to attack them, but the French fling themselves into the Highway that runs to Ghent, they were follow'd only by four Battallions, and the forty Squadrons: The Granadiers of the four Battallions push'd twelve Companies of the Granadiers who were posted along the Highway to secure their Retreat. The Head of our Horse falling into the Fire of the French Granadiers, had several Officers and Soldiers kill'd and wounded; the Regiment of Pntz suffer'd most: Of the Granadiers commanded by Major Erwing, several Officers were kill'd and wounded on this Occasion. Major General Meredith was slightly wounded with a Musket shot on the Bone of the Cheek.

On the Enemies side a great many were kill'd and taken. The Regiment of Risbourg was intirely ruin'd being the last Regiment that stood. Two intire Companies were taken. Brigadeir Pourriene, who commanded the last Brigade, was taken, with many other Officers.

Their Rear-Guard was push'd within less than two Leagues of Ghent; there being only one Road, without any Place to form in, and the Foot being very much tir'd, it was not thought fit to pursue them any farther: What remains of their Army being under the Cannon of Ghent.

It's impossible to give a just Account of the Number of the kill'd or Wounded in either of the Armies. But the Fire was so very hot, and lasted so long, and so many Troops were engag'd, that the loss must be very considerable, especially on the side of the Enemy.

The Number of the Prisoners next Day amounted to above 7000, among whom are two Lieutenant-Generals, the Marquis de Biron, and Monsieur de Capres: two Major-Generals, Raffev and the Duke de St Agnan; five Brigadiers, Courriene, Pourriene, Magalotti, Cressi and Fiffer. About 30 Colonels, above 100 Field Officers, and 400 other Officers: There are taken likewise between 70 and 80 Colours and Standards. Amongst the kill'd on their side are reckon'd the Count de Dreux, Major-General; the Chevalier de Luxemburg, and the Prince D'Egmont.

On our side the Loss is very small in proportion to such a Victory, we have no General Officer kill'd; among the wounded, are Lieutenant-General Watsmore, Major General Laudon, Bernsdorf and Meredith; Brigadiers Bernhard and Goudeaker; Colonels Groves and Pennyfeather, dangerously wounded.

The Colonels, Aldercas and Lufckey; Count Rantzau, Sir John Mathews, and Captain Dean of the Guards were kill'd.